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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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# INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE IN ARMENIA EXPAND

Soviet Armenia has been transformed into a land of industry and kolkhozes(1). Today, its large and varied industrial production comprises 84 percent of its economy, whereas in 1913 it only comprised 23.9 percent. Industrial enterprises produce high-quality technical equipment, including such items as tools, generators, and transformers.

During the Stalin Five-Year Plan, the industry of the republic has grown and expanded steadily. The plans for industrial production during the first 3 years of the Five-Year Plan have been fulfilled. (2) In 1947, the second year of the Five-Year Plan, the net production of Armenian industry had already attained the 1940 level. (1) By the end of 1948, commodity production had increased 66.3 percent in comparison with 1940. The quality of products is steadily improving.

Over 50 enterprises have completed the 1949 year plan ahead of schedule. Other enterprises, among which are the Machine-Tool Building Plant imeni Dzerzhinskiy, the Machine Building Plant of the Ministry of Local Industry, the plant for metal consumers' goods, and the Leninakan railroad depot, have completed the 1949 year plan.(2) In the Alaverdi Chemical Plant, workers of the shop producing fertilizer have considerably increased the productivity of labor, and the shop producing sulfuric acid has exceeded the plan for the first 10 days of December by 128 percent.(3) One of the greatest achievements this year has been the construction of the very large Sevages Hydroelectric Power Plant, which is of great significance for the further development of industry.(1)

Despite its many advances, there are still shortcomings in Armenian industry. From one quarter to the next, enterprises of the Ministry of Food Industry, Armenian SSR, do not complete their production plans, disrupt the plan for assortment of goods, and cause large losses of raw material and semifinished material. The quota set for commodity production during the first quarter of 1949 was met by only 74.9 percent, and the third quarter plan was not completed.<sup>(4)</sup>

Important advances have been made in Armenian agriculture. In comparison with the pre-Soviet period, the sowing area has increased 5.5 times; the area for growing cotton, 25 times; tobacco plantations, 100 times; and vineyards, three times. Subtropical plants are being introduced successfully. (2)

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Socialist industry is continually providing fine, new machinery for agriculture. Numerous tractors, milling machines, combines, seed drills, and other agricultural machines used in kolkhozes and sovkhoses for producing higher and more stable harvests are now being made. The mechanization of agricultural processes such as threshing, preparation of fodder, and of labor-consuming work in livestock raising is expanding (2); and the harvest of grain and industrial crops is increasing. Kolkhozes in the republic have fulfilled ahead of schedule the quota for the fourth year of the Stalin Five-Year Plan for grain, raw cotton, grapes, potatoes, cocoons, and other raw materials and products.(1)

Tobacco-growing kolkhozes in Armenia have produced a record harvest of tobacco ahead of schedule and have exceeded the plan to provide the government with raw tobacco. Every effort is being made to carry out the Stalin Five-Year Plan for the Transformation of Nature. Considerable success has been achieved in fulfilling the 3-year plan for developing the productivity of livestock in kolkhozes.(1) The introduction of the grass crop rotation system of soil cultivation and numerous important agrotechnical measures along with kolkhoz irrigation work guarantees future expansion of socialist agriculture in Armenia.(2)

At present, Armenian villages are being electrified. More than 40 percent of all kolkhozes in the republic have already been electrified. This work has been especially expanded during the Stalin Five-Year Plan. During 1950, electrification of kolkhozes, machine-tractor stations, and sovkhoses of the republic should be entirely completed. This measure will make it possible to electrify the production processes, which in turn will aid in reducing heavy physical labor, in freeing a considerable number of workers, and in improving the living conditions of kolkhoz workers.(1)

Science is making important contributions to the development of Armenian SSR. In 1949, scientific coworkers of the Institute of Phytopathology and Zoology of the Academy of Sciences Armenian SSR did a great deal of work in providing the biological sciences with new information on animal life in Armenia. The department of vertebrate zoology completed three expeditions to the distant mountain steppe and forest areas of the republic where valuable information on vertebrates was obtained.

Other expeditions to Vedinskiy, Oktemberyanskiy, Akhtinskiy, and other rayons were organized by the entomology department. Members of the expedition conducted research on forest nurseries and young field-protecting shelter belts.

Stations in various parts of Armenia are studying diseases and pests of agricultural plants and are developing new and more effective methods of combating them.(5)

#### SOURCES

1. Zarya Vostoka, No 233, 29 Nov 49
2. Kommunist, No 280 29 Nov 49
3. Kommunist, No 300, 22 Dec 49
4. Kommunist, No 261, 4 Nov 49
5. Kommunist, No 277, 25 Nov 49

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